



**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA**

**MEETING DATE:**        **Wednesday, April 1, 2009**

**TIME:**                    **8:00-9:00 AM**

**PLACE:**                **Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce  
Conference Room, 1470 Jamboree Road**

1. Call to Order
2. Updates & Announcements
3. Staff Project Updates
4. Subcommittee & Member Reports
  - Progress on Annual Report Preparation
5. Discussion Items
  - Creation of a Committee of Interested Individuals to Explore a Summer "Water Taxi" Service. (*Attachment*)
6. Set Agenda for April 15, 2009 Full EDC Meeting
  - Proposal for a Special Events Committee to advise City Council (held over from Jan., Feb, & March)
  - Proposal to create a Committee of Interested Individuals to Explore Summer "Water Taxi" Service
  - A preview of the Newport Beach Film Festival
  - A summary report on Restaurant Week January 2009
7. Comments from the Public
8. Adjourn

# **NEWPORT BEACH SUMMER WATER TAXI EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE**

## **DRAFT**

### **Background**

Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan for Fiscal and Economic Sustainability is: “The City shall facilitate an economically viable concentration of marine uses, and enhance the maritime viability of Newport Harbor.”

Objective 4.5 for implementing the goal states: “The City will invite proposals for the implementation of a privately owned and operated summer water transportation service, with funding supplemented by grants, private contributions and public monies. Research should be conducted into the transferability of existing models in Los Angeles County and other Areas.”

The actions steps for this objective specifically call out the formation of a committee of interested individuals from the EDC, Harbor Commission and local maritime and tourism industry to lead this effort. Therefore, the EDC is proposing the formation of a Newport Beach Summer Water Taxi Exploratory Committee.

### **Purpose**

1. To create a tourism map for Newport Beach Harbor showing the locations of public docks and dingy tie-ups, points of interest within 100 yards of these docking opportunities, and local restaurants with docking facilities. The map would serve as both a water tourism guide for visiting boat owners/renters and as the basis for designing a “water taxi” route.
2. To research successful small-harbor, summer-only private or public/private water transportation services that may be suitable models for a service in Newport Beach.
3. To develop and propose to the City Council strategies, funding sources and possible methods of implementation.
4. To, if appropriate, develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) to be sent to private operators of existing services inviting them to establish facilities in Newport Beach.
5. To assist the City Council with its review of proposals resulting from an RFP, should one be issued.
6. The Committee will be purely advisory in nature, and will not make determinations as to the approval of any service or operator covered by this document. Decision making responsibility rests exclusively with the City Council.

## **Structure**

1. The eight person exploratory committee would be appointed by the Mayor from applications received and recommendations provided by the Economic Development Committee, Conference and Visitors Bureau, Chambers of Commerce, Restaurant Association, other groups with an interest in maritime affairs in Newport Beach. The committee shall include:
  - Two members from the EDC.
  - Two members of the Harbor Commission
  - Two local maritime representatives
  - Two tourism industry representatives (1 Tourism BID & 1 Restaurant BID)
2. The committee would elect its own chairperson.
3. The committee would be provided organization and staff support by the City Harbor Resources Division.
4. The committee would meet as needed, and all meetings would be noticed and open to the public.

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